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E.O. 12958: DECL: 07/25/2017  
TAGS: [PREF](#) [PINR](#) [APER](#) [RS](#)  
SUBJECT: RESPONSE TO FORMER EMBASSY EMPLOYEE'S  
NON-CREDIBLE CLAIM FOR REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT

REF: A. MOSCOW 3445  
[1](#)B. 03 STATE 326428  
[1](#)C. STATE 54846  
[1](#)D. PRM PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENT 2007-1

Classified By: EUR DAS David Kramer per reasons 1.4 (b) and (d)

[1](#)1. (C) The United States Refugee Admissions Program allows for the consideration of individuals referred by Posts, and all Posts are authorized and encouraged to identify and refer appropriate applicants for possible refugee resettlement. Post must use its discretion in making referrals and has the authority to determine whether or not an individual should be referred.

[1](#)2. (C) Post referrals should be for individuals who are known to the Post or in whom the U.S. has a special humanitarian concern and who the Post believes have valid reasons to fear harm on account of race, religion, nationality, membership in a particular social group or political opinion. (REF B) The Department notes that, as the subject individuals are Russian citizens currently in Russia, they would only be given access to the USRAP following an official referral cable submitted by Post and concurrence by PRM and DHS/USCIS officers in Washington. (Refs B and D).

[1](#)3. (C) Post's decision not to submit an Embassy referral would not preclude the possible consideration of these individuals for refugee resettlement should they be referred by a UNHCR office outside Russia. Post's decision would also not preclude other governments from providing asylum or refugee resettlement. Should the Kalashnikovs approach other U.S. missions seeking resettlement or assistance as refugees, they may be referred to UNHCR or local authorities, as appropriate.

[1](#)4. (C) The Department recognizes that it is within Post's discretionary authority to take the approach outlined in Reftel A, to "convey to the Kalashnikovs that we cannot refer them to the U.S. Refugee Admissions Program and intend to stop any further contact with them."  
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